

Dec 06, 2020



Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

The Oaks Baptist Church
Grand Prairie, Texas

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Lesson Leaders:

James Haymon

Class Leaders:

Inreach: Pat Hester

Deacon: C M Hester

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

When you receive Christ, you become a stockholder in the riches of heaven

POEM FOR THE WEEK:

Rejoice because your debt is paid,
For all your sins on Christ were laid;
You are an heir, you're justified
And all because the Savior died
—DJD

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:

Who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory
(Eph 1:14 NKJV)

(from "Our Daily Bread", Nov 21, 1996)

Series: Call in the New Testament

UNIT: The Beginning of a Call

NEXT WEEK

Called to be Immanuel
(Matt 1:18-25)

Called to be Heir **Matt 1:1-6, 16-17; Heb 1:1-5**

Lesson Background and Introduction

From the exile in Babylon of 586 BC onward, Judea was rarely free of foreign powers that imposed their will on the nation. After Babylon came Persia, then Greece, and finally Rome. In about 38 BC, Rome declared Herod to be king of Judea. Herod imposed Greek and Roman culture onto the Jews, even erecting a temple to the goddess Roma in Caesarea Maritima. The Jews despised Herod not only for these acts but also because he wasn't Jewish by heritage and thus not a rightful king. Matthew told his readers about Jesus' human heritage: Jesus is the king promised to bless all nations. The major theme is God's faithfulness, which situates Jesus as the final step in God's fulfillment of his Old and New Covenant promises. The theme of Covenant promises prepares us for the message and mission. The author of Hebrews, by comparison, focused on Jesus' divine heritage. When Jesus finished his earthly ministry, He was honored by the Father, further indicating the importance of accepting his message. Through these texts, the Holy Spirit directs us to pay attention to Jesus' message. He is God's Son, greater than any angel or prophet. But He is also God Himself.

(Adapted from the NIV Standard Lesson Commentary)

The Firstborn - In the Old Testament, an heir was principally a son, particularly the firstborn, who held the birthright. This meant it entitled him to a larger portion than the other siblings (Deut. 21:17). The New Testament says Jesus Christ is God's "firstborn" the heir of all things in the universe. The Christ child is the recipient of all the Father has. God Himself verified this fact when He said at Jesus' Transfiguration, "This is my Son, listen to Him" (Luke 9:35).

Jesus' Family Tree - Both Matthew's and Luke's Gospels include a family tree for Jesus. Those who questioned Jesus' validity as a descendant of King David could search His genealogy and see His bloodline connection to King David. Matthew started Jesus' genealogy line with Abraham and ended it with His mother, Mary. All this detail was recorded with one primary objective: to prove Jesus was the promised Messiah. Matthew also emphasized Jesus' name, which means Savior, the Anointed One, the one called of God to redeem the lost.

Jesus' Identity - The author of the Book of Hebrews joined with the Gospel writers in confirming Jesus' identity. Before Christ walked the earth, the Scriptures highlighted several ways to hear God's voice and come to know Him, especially through the prophets. However, when Christ came, we could "see" God. Jesus visited earth to put God on display. He became both God and man to show what the Father is truly like.

Jesus' Favor - The world was created through Jesus, and to this day, He is the one sustaining it (Col. 1:17). After Jesus accomplished His work on earth, dying for the sins of humanity, He returned to heaven where He now sits at the Father's right hand. This places His status far above any other being in heaven or on earth. Jesus, God's heir, is given all of the highest heavenly privileges. It's incredible such a One desires to speak to mere mortals. But He does and delights in doing so. He will even soften hard hearts and open closed ears to listen to His voice. Simply amazing.

(Adapted from the Echoes Commentary)

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

Jesus is Heir Through Heredity (Matt 1:1-6,16-17)

Genealogy of Jesus

Jesus is Heir Through Revelation (Heb 1:1-5)

Revelation spoken before Jesus came to earth (1)

Revelation starting with Moses (Luke 24:25-27)

Revelation written in the Law (John 1:45)

Revelation through the prophets who testified about Jesus and His power (Acts 10:43)

Revelation through the promise made to David (Rom 1:1-4)

Revelation in Jesus (2)

In Jesus because Jesus is the spirit of prophecy (Rev 19:10)

In Jesus through the gospel in the Scriptures (1 Cor 15:3-4)

In Jesus because Jesus and God are One (John 14:9-11)

In Jesus because Jesus is God in bodily form (Col 2:9)

In Jesus because Jesus is with and is God (John 1:1)

Revelation through Jesus (3)

Revelation through Jesus because He came from Heaven (John 3:31)

Revelation through Jesus because Jesus is the glory of God (John 1:14)

Revelation through Jesus because Jesus is the light of the gospel (2 Cor 4:4)

Revelation through Jesus because Jesus is the image of God (Col 1:15)

Revelation of Supremacy above angels (4)

Supremacy above angels because Jesus has all authority and dominion (Eph 1:20-23)

Supremacy above angels because Jesus has supremacy over everything (Col 1:18)

Supremacy above angels because Jesus is the head over every power and authority (Col 2:10)

Supremacy above angels because angels are in submission to Jesus (1 Peter 3:22)

Revelation of Supremacy because of being God's Son (5)

God's Son because God proclaimed it (Matt 17:5)

God's Son because of the miracles Jesus performed (Matt 14:32-33)

God's Son because even demons recognized it (Luke 4:41)

God's Son because the Holy Spirit confirmed it (John 1:32-34)

God's Son because Jesus is the Christ (John 11:25-27)

God's Son because the Bible was written to prove it (John 20:31)

God's Son because it is the truth (Matt 16:16)